

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 6, 15 and 16 without prejudice and accept amended claims 1 and 7-9 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a plurality of related sub-documents to produce information associated with an encompassing document structure, comprising:

a source of control information for determining content structure of an encompassing document;

a first document processor for deriving internal structure information of each of said plurality of related sub-documents in response to said control information, wherein said first document processor derives said internal structure information by identifying at least one of, (a) objects within a document and (b) divisions between objects;

a second document processor for deriving external structure information between said plurality of related sub-documents in response to said control information; and

a data generator for generating a table of contents representing said internal structure information and said external structure information.

2. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said data generator further generates menu icons representing navigation controls supporting User navigation through said encompassing document structure using table of contents information.

3. (Original) The system according to claim 2, wherein said navigation controls comprise one or more of, (a) controls for navigating between sub-documents and (b) controls for navigating within an individual sub-document.

4. (Original) The system according to claim 2, wherein said navigation controls comprise one or more of, (a) controls for navigating forward or backward between sub-documents and (b) controls for navigating upward and downward within an individual sub-document.

5. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said sub-documents comprise one or more of, (a) an SGML document, (b) an XML document, (c) an HTML document (d) a document encoded in a language incorporating distinct content attributes and presentation attributes, and (e) a multimedia file.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim ~~6~~ 1, wherein said objects within a document comprise heading objects including at least one of, headings, footers, headers, figure titles and table titles, and non-heading objects including at least one of, paragraphs, lists tables and graphics.

8. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim ~~6~~ 1, wherein said divisions between objects are identified based on at least one of, (i) a horizontal line, (ii) a larger than typical vertical spacing between text lines, (iii) heading marks, (iv) text properties and (v) special objects.

9. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim ~~6~~ 1, wherein said control information identifies different objects.

10. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said source of control information comprises an SGML document.

11. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said second document processor derives said external structure information by using said control information in hierarchically ordering said plurality of related sub-documents to conform to a hierarchical section numbering system.

12. (Previously Presented) A system for processing a plurality of related sub-documents to produce information associated with an encompassing document structure, comprising:

a source of control information for determining content structure of an encompassing document;

a first document processor for deriving internal structure information of each of said plurality of related sub-documents in response to said control information;

a second document processor for compiling encompassing document structure information integrating related sub-document structure information; and

a data generator for generating a table of contents representing said internal structure information and said encompassing document structure information.

13. (Original) The system according to claim 12, wherein said second document processor compiles encompassing document structure information into a hierarchical structure.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 12, wherein said data generator further generates navigation information supporting User navigation through said internal structure information and said encompassing document structure using said table of contents.

15-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A system for processing a plurality of related sub-documents to produce information associated with an encompassing document structure, comprising:

a source of control information for determining content structure of an encompassing document;

a first document processor for deriving internal structure information of each of said plurality of related sub-documents to identify structural object elements in response to said control information;

a second document processor for compiling encompassing document structure information integrating related sub-document structure information, derived using said identified object elements; and

a processor for generating a navigation menu based on said internal structure information and said encompassing document structure.

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 17, wherein said navigation menu comprises a table of contents linked to associated content via a database, wherein said table of contents represents a hierarchical structure of said internal structure information and said encompassing document structure information.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the table of contents is represented as a hierarchical structure incorporating said internal structure information and said external structure information.